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For Immediate Release
July 1, 2004

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Red-Tape Reduction Package moving through Legislature

LANSING – Almost half of the comprehensive bipartisan, bicameral legislation to implement a new processing deadline on nearly every permit or license issued to businesses in the state of Michigan is now headed to the governor, said Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia.

“When a business cannot get off the ground because of a slow and inefficient permit process, Michigan’s economy suffers and Michigan workers are given fewer opportunities,” Toy said. “I urge the governor to act quickly to sign these bills into law so Michigan job providers can benefit from a more efficient and responsive permit process.”

The Red-Tape Reduction Package is part of the Legislature’s JOBS Action Plan for revitalizing the state’s economy. The plan specifically targets ways to attract new businesses, save existing jobs and promote a healthier business climate in the state.

The framework established by the new bills would:

- Implement a fixed processing deadline for issuance of a permit or license;
- Require the state to notify applicants within 30 days if an application is incomplete and requires additional information;
- Refund the current application fee, and provide a 15-percent discount on the subsequent period’s application fee, if a deadline is not met; and
- Require departments to provide reports to legislative committees to ensure the new laws are making permit and license processes more efficient and timely for businesses.

The new laws would affect licenses for new businesses as well as operational permits for current job providers.

Senate action on the remaining bills in the Red-Tape Reduction Package is expected as early as next week.

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